

News Release

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Contact: Mark Fawver
Public Affairs Officer
Caltrans - (530) 225-3260

California Department of Transportation
District 2, Redding
Brian F. Crane, District Director

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Highway Info - 1-800-427-7623 http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/roadinfo

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sacramento River Waterway/Boating Advisory

REDDING – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is advising boaters, rafters and other non-motorized vessel operators of a reduced width waterway passage at the Sacramento River Bridge construction project, just north of Riverside Drive on Interstate 5 near Anderson. The \$16 million reconstruction project is currently in the third and final phase to replace the two older bridges with a single four lane wide structure.

The flow of the Sacramento River has been diverted through a single passageway under the bridge and through the construction zone. A temporary gravel bar has been placed from the south side of the river to allow access for construction crews and equipment to work on two sites for pilings, footings and columns in the riverbed. A temporary trestle has been erected on the north side of the river to allow equipment to construct a third cofferdam within the river channel. The flow of the river, higher than usual for this time of the year, has been diverted to the deepest channel for boat, raft and kayak passage through the construction zone.

Waterway informational signs warning river travelers of an approaching passageway restriction have been erected on both sides of the river upstream and downstream of the bridges. A buoy line has been set along the north side of the river to direct traffic through the opening. Additional warning signs hanging from the bridge will alert travelers to the reduced width passageway.

Caltrans advises that less experienced rafters or large groups of rafters should exit the river along the south side of the river, upstream of the bridges, and carry their rafts across the gravel bar through a designated area of the construction zone.

All river travelers are advised to use caution and practice safe boating rules as they pass through the area. Boaters going upstream towards the bridge construction site should yield to downstream traffic.